(b) to (e) In November, 2000 the Government introduced a Bill to amend the AAI Act, 1994 to include an enabling provision for leasing airports of Airports Authority of India. The Department-Related Standing Committee on Transport and Tourism has examined the Bill and tabled the report on 21.11.2002. No firm schedule has been fixed to complete the process.

Profit earned by AI

1952. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has registered a profit during the first half of the current year; and

(b) if so, the amount of profit and the figures of profit of corresponding period last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per provisional estimates, Air India has made a net profit of Rs. 46.79 crores during the first half of the current financial year as compared to net profit of Rs. 12.00 crores during the corresponding period last year.

Eligibility for Haj subsidy

1953. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MISS MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any kind of subsidy is paid to Haj pilgrims; if so, what are the norms for eligibility;

(b) whether well-off and affluent pilgrims are also extended this benefit; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether such kind of subsidy is also paid to the other Indian pilgrims for pilgrimage abroad; if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Subsidy is given by Government